supervision of PDS kerosene distribution, so as to ensure that entitled beneficiaries actually receive their entitlement and diversion to adulteration and black-marketing is capped, reversed and eventually eliminated.

Measures to check adulteration are kept under continuous review of the Government.

(c) The officers of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies conducted 12 inspections during April-September, 2005 of the dealers in Buxar district of Bihar. No malpractices/irregularities were detected during these inspections.

(d) Does not arise, in view of the reply to part (c) above.

ONGC's Investment in oil refineries

†2988. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal of ONGC, a Government undertaking for making investment in Mangalore, Kakinada and Barmer oil refineries is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount proposed to be invested; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), through its subsidiary, Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL), have initiated efforts to consider setting up the following refineries:-

(i) A refinery in Mangalore as envisaged in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by ONGC with the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) and Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry (KCCI);

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(ii) An export-oriented refinery in the Coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh near Kakinada; and

(iii) A well-head refinery in Rajasthan in association with Cairn for processing the heavy crude oil discovered by the joint venture of Cairn and ONGC.

The financial outlays and time-lines for these projects can be worked out only after completion of detailed techno-economic feasibility studies.

Supply of gas to power plants

†2989. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of gas to power generating plants has been less than their requirements;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of gas presently supplied to each power generating project; and

(d) the demand of each project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The power Sector units have an allocation of about 41.36 MMSCMD of APM gas, including the allocation on a fallback basis. Against this allocation, total APM gas supplies to the power units averaged at around 30.99 MMSCMD during the first quarter and 25.93 MMSCMD during the second quarter of 2005-06. In addition to APM gas, GAIL supplied 2.49 MMSCMD of RLNG during the first quarter and 1.80 MMSCMD of RLNG during the second quarter of 2005-06 to the power plants. The power unit-wise details are enclosed as Statement (*See* below)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.